

REMARKS

Currently, claims 1-11 and 21-36 remain pending in the present application. In the previous Office Action, claims 1-11, 21-34 and 36 continued to stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Blackwood in view of Moriwaki. In addition, claims 35 and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Blackwood in view of Moriwaki and Weil.

In response, enclosed is a Declaration under 37 CFR 1.131 signed by the inventor which should effectively remove Blackwood as a prior reference.

In conjunction with the filing of the Declaration, the Examiner's attention is also directed to claim 21 which has been amended such that the finish comprises specifically a halogenated acrylic polymer or copolymer.

Based on the above, Applicant submits that the present application is in complete condition for allowance. Should any issues remain after consideration of this response, however, then the Examiner is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned at his or her convenience in the hopes of expediting prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date